

**THE RESOLUTION OF COOPERATION FOR REESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**

Summary Of Major Features And Benefits

Reestablishment of the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission	
Feature	Benefit
1. Reestablishes the HCRPC	<p>HCRPC's organizational concepts, dating from 1929, will be brought into the 21st Century – with greater focus on long range planning.</p> <p>Informal rules and policies will be replaced by a formal cooperation agreement to increase awareness and understanding of the HCRPC as well as local participation in HCRPC.</p>
2. Assures that existing laws and statutes are in no way modified or superseded by the Agreement.	<p>By executing the agreement, the county, municipalities and townships do not in any way abrogate their respective decision-making responsibility accorded them by law.</p> <p>The ultimate authority for land use and development decisions is retained respectively by the County, the municipalities and the townships.</p> <p>These provision support home rule, self-determination of local communities, and government being close to the people.</p>
3. Retains membership and method of appointment of HCRPC members	<p>The current seven member Commission works efficiently to process short term planning (i.e., development review related to subdivision of land and zoning).</p> <p>The current commission membership provides a balance of four township representatives and three municipal representatives.</p>
4. Enables four of the seven HCRPC members to be appointed by the BCC from nominations by Township Trustees	The proposed nomination process facilitates a more equitable level of township participation in identifying appropriate representatives
5. Enables membership by Municipalities and Townships	<p>HCRPC will become a more effective forum for discussing multi-jurisdictional planning problems and opportunities if Township and Municipal representatives are active participants.</p> <p>Adding Townships as members recognizes that the unincorporated areas today are established places (with populations exceeding most municipalities) and active players in community planning and development.</p>
6. Enables annual funding for long range comprehensive planning	<p>Previous funding for long range planning from the 49 political jurisdictions only amounted to about \$3,000 per year—a funding level that is not sufficient for an effective planning program.</p> <p>The revised funding schedule from local jurisdictions has the potential to produce an annual revenue of \$80,000 to \$100,000 for long range planning.</p> <p>The Board of County Commissioners' commitment to supplement existing appropriation for long-range community planning is dependent on demonstration of local commitment.</p>
7. Achieves equitable assessment of membership fees by basing local fees on an index of the, area and assessed valuation per capita for each community.	<p>Communities with small areas, and low assessed valuation per capita pay lower fees. Higher fees are paid by communities with large areas, and high assessed valuation per capita.</p> <p>The area of each community is an indicator of relative demand for services. The assessed valuation per capita of each community is an indicator of relative capacity to pay for regional planning services.</p>

8. Enables annual fees to be adjusted annually based on the rate of inflation.	Large increases at multi-year intervals will be avoided. Funds available for sustaining an effective countywide planning program will remain constant, enabling a constant level of service.
9. Enables members to hold other elected or appointed public office.	Having Mayors, Council Members, Trustees and government managers on the Planning Partnership increases communication potential and makes consensus building, among the 49 jurisdictions, more effective.
10. Enables incremental agreements and membership	The agreements can be signed by local jurisdictions at any time and membership on the HCRPC can continually increase.

Establishment of the Hamilton County Planning Partnership	
Feature	Benefit
1. Establishes a Planning Partnership and an expanded committee structure.	Greater involvement of local jurisdictions will increase awareness of, and promote collaboration on, a broader scope of countywide concerns and opportunities (e.g., population loss, disinvestments, regional economic competitiveness and unified applications for regional and state funding).
2. Clarifies that the purpose of the Planning Partnership is to make advisory, nonbinding recommendations to the HCRPC.	The inclusive structure of the Planning Partnership encourages creative collaboration and diversity of opinion in an open dialogue with public, private and civic sector representatives. Its structure as an advisory committee achieves compliance with state law. This provision supports home rule, self-determination of local communities, and government being close to the people.
3. Creates a forum to bring together public sector, private sector and civic sector organizations in our County.	The Planning Partnership will assist in achievement of mutual community goals related to development and management of the county's land, economy, environment, transportation, infrastructure and related issues. The Partnership will assist in communicating Hamilton county's issues and vision to regional and state funding organizations.
4. Enables at least one representative for each jurisdiction, with some additional representation for larger communities – a maximum of 63 members.	The Partnership (a committee of the HCRPC) will enable dialogue about long range planning among the 49 political jurisdictions without encumbering the short range development review activities of the seven member Commission. Participation of 63 members and representation of all jurisdictions enables efficient liaison with local planning commissions and governing bodies and creates an alliance of small groups or subcommittees for problem solving and consensus building on multi-jurisdictional issues.
5. Provides for local representatives on the Planning Partnership to be appointed by the governing body of each political jurisdiction.	Local appointments increase accountability, commitment and communication. This provision also supports home rule, self-determination of local communities, and government being close to the people.
6. Enables public, private and civic sector organizations to be associate members and therefore, participants on committees.	Effective countywide planning as well as its implementation requires collaboration with all three sectors of society. Today, many civic sector and private sector organizations are involved in community planning and their members, work programs, funding and products can complement, and be aligned with, public sector community planning.

HCRPC
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